

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a system where one or more I/O devices are shared by a plurality of information processing apparatuses over a network, the I/O devices have common identifiers and peculiar identifiers. The common identifiers are used in common among the information processing apparatuses for specifying the respective I/O devices. The peculiar identifiers are used individually by each of the information processing apparatuses for specifying the respective I/O devices. I/O-device information associated with a common identifier is read, and I/O-device information associated with a peculiar identifier is read. Correspondence between the common identifier and the peculiar identifier is recognized by comparing these specified I/O-device information.